



## Department of Public Safety

ROBERT L. FLOWERS  
Commissioner



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Monday, January 11, 2005  
11:30 a.m.

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### **State Assessment Team Sent to Southern Utah**

*State EOC Continues to Coordinate Response Efforts With Local Agencies*

An assessment team led by the Utah Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security has been sent to southern Utah to begin assessing damage from the floods in Washington County

In Salt Lake City, the State of Utah Emergency Operations Center remains partially activated today to assist in the response efforts. State agencies now represented at the State EOC include:

- The Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security (DES)
- Utah Department of Transportation
- Utah National Guard
- Utah Department of Health.

State officials continue to coordinate response efforts with local agencies. DES also maintains regular contact with the Governor's Office and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The following response efforts from state agencies are being coordinated from the State EOC:

#### *Department of Public Safety*

- Commissioner Robert Flowers continues to assist local agencies in Washington County with flood response efforts.
- The department's Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security (DES) Director Nannette Rolfe and Chief of Staff Anna Rae Garrett have been sent to Washington County to help local communities determine what, if any, federal disaster assistance they might be eligible for.
- A DES representative is in the Washington County EOC to help meet the needs of local agencies.
- DES has sent a communications trailer to Washington County to assist in local radio communications.

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- DES officials have gathered situation reports from all 29 counties in the state in order to assess activities throughout Utah.
- DES delivered 6,800 sandbags and a sandbag machine to Washington County Monday night. Another 43,000 sandbags purchased by the state are expected to arrive later today from Arizona.

*Utah Department of Transportation:*

- UDOT has helped with road closures in the following areas:
  - ✓ SR 18 (north Enterprise) due to flooding
  - ✓ SR 56 (west of Beryl Junction) due to flooding
  - ✓ SR 14 (east of Cedar City) due to snow
  - ✓ SR 143 (closed between Brian Head and Panguitch Lake)
- UDOT has also assisted Washington County to clear debris from the road into New Harmony.
- UDOT delivered 18,000 sandbags to Washington County Monday night.

*Utah National Guard*

- One Blackhawk Helicopter has been sent to help in evacuation and EMS support
- 12 soldiers have been called out to assist in sandbagging efforts.

*Utah Department of Health*

- Officials arranging for air support that can be used for medical response in isolated communities. The department is also coordinating the placement of ambulances at strategic locations in Washington County.

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